PERKINS COIE LLP

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December 21, 1999

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BRIAN G. SVOBODA (202) 434-1654 svobb@perkinscoie.com

SENT VIA FACSIMILE AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Ms. Jennifer H. Boyt Paralegal Specialist Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20463

Re: MUR 4945

Dear Ms. Boyt:

Respondents Friends of Joe Baca, William P. Smith, Treasurer, and Congressman Joe Baca today retained Perkins Coie LLP to represent them in connection with MUR 4945. Enclosed please find a facsimile copy of an executed Statement of Designation of Counsel, with originals to follow.

We respectfully request an extension of time to respond to the Complaint. Because we were only retained today, we require additional time to gather the facts necessary for a response. Moreover, the coming holidays make the development and execution of a response by December 28 impracticable. The Commission surely will not be prejudiced by the filing of a response after, rather than during, the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

Accordingly, Respondents request that the deadline for filing a response be extended to the close of business Friday, January 7, 2000. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at the above address and telephone number.

Very truly yours,

Brian G. Svoboda

Counsel to Respondents

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Enclosure

[04031-0044/DA993550.041]

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

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FIRM: Perkins Cote ILP		
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